

REPTILES
AND
AMPHIBIANS



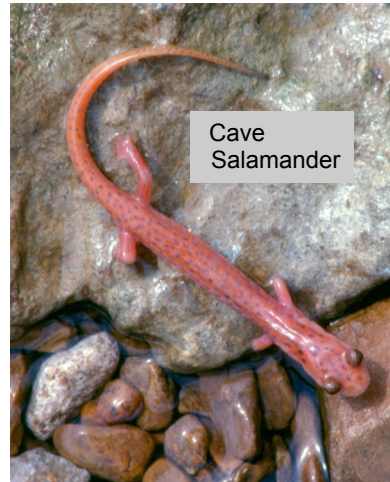
Southeastern Five-lined Skink



Eastern Box Turtle



Northern Watersnake



Cave Salamander

Of Warner Parks



Green Frog



American Toad

REPTILES
AND
AMPHIBIANS



Southeastern Five-lined Skink



Eastern Box Turtle



Northern Watersnake

Of Warner Parks



Green Frog



American Toad

The following reptiles and amphibians have been recorded within the boundaries of Edwin and Percy Warner Parks. However, many other species occur in the Middle Tennessee area and may be found in the Warner Parks; therefore, this list is not complete and Warner Parks staff encourages visitors to report sightings of unlisted species.

Class Amphibia: Amphibians

- Means “two lives”
- Spend part of their lives in water (aquatic), and part on land (terrestrial)
- Cold-blooded (ectothermic), vertebrates (with backbones)
- Typically with moist, smooth skin
- Life cycle includes metamorphosis (egg, larva, adult)
- Adults are carnivorous (meat-eaters)
- Larvae are both herbivorous (plant-eaters), and carnivorous

Order Anura: Frogs and Toads

- Frogs have slimy skin
- Most frogs frequent aquatic habitats, and all lay eggs in water
- Toads have bumpy, drier skin, and are more terrestrial in nature although they must find water to lay their eggs
- Calls are especially helpful with identification



The long, high musical trill of the **American Toad** is a sure sign of spring. Eggs can be found in black “strands of pearls” in ponds from March until May. Little black tadpoles complete metamorphosis and toadlets emerge beginning in late May.



Frogs and Toads

American Toad	<i>Anaxyrus (Bufo) americanus</i>
Fowlers Toad	<i>Anaxyrus (Bufo) fowleri</i>
Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad	<i>Gastrophryne carolinensis</i>
Northern Cricket Frog	<i>Acris crepitans</i>
Cope’s Gray Treefrog	<i>Hyla chrysoscelis</i>
Spring Peeper	<i>Pseudacris crucifer</i>
Southeastern Chorus Frog	<i>Pseudacris feriarum</i>
American Bullfrog	<i>Lithobates (Rana) catesbeianus</i>
Northern Green Frog	<i>Lithobates (Rana) clamitans melanota</i>
Pickerel Frog	<i>Lithobates (Rana) palustris</i>
Southern Leopard Frog	<i>Lithobates (Rana) sphenoccephalus</i>

This species list was compiled by LEAPS, Learning through Environmental Awareness Program. Pit traps such as these were set throughout the Warner Parks to collect, identify, and then release both reptiles and amphibians.



The following reptiles and amphibians have been recorded within the boundaries of Edwin and Percy Warner Parks. However, many other species occur in the Middle Tennessee area and may be found in the Warner Parks; therefore, this list is not complete and Warner Parks staff encourages visitors to report sightings of unlisted species.

Class Amphibia: Amphibians

- Means “two lives”
- Spend part of their lives in water (aquatic), and part on land (terrestrial)
- Cold-blooded (ectothermic), vertebrates (with backbones)
- Typically with moist, smooth skin
- Life cycle includes metamorphosis (egg, larva, adult)
- Adults are carnivorous (meat-eaters)
- Larvae are both herbivorous (plant-eaters), and carnivorous

Order Anura: Frogs and Toads

- Frogs have slimy skin
- Most frogs frequent aquatic habitats, and all lay eggs in water
- Toads have bumpy, drier skin, and are more terrestrial in nature although they must find water to lay their eggs
- Calls are especially helpful with identification



The long, high musical trill of the **American Toad** is a sure sign of spring. Eggs can be found in black “strands of pearls” in ponds from March until May. Little black tadpoles complete metamorphosis and toadlets emerge beginning in late May.



Frogs and Toads

American Toad	<i>Anaxyrus (Bufo) americanus</i>
Fowlers Toad	<i>Anaxyrus (Bufo) fowleri</i>
Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad	<i>Gastrophryne carolinensis</i>
Northern Cricket Frog	<i>Acris crepitans</i>
Cope’s Gray Treefrog	<i>Hyla chrysoscelis</i>
Spring Peeper	<i>Pseudacris crucifer</i>
Southeastern Chorus Frog	<i>Pseudacris feriarum</i>
American Bullfrog	<i>Lithobates (Rana) catesbeianus</i>
Northern Green Frog	<i>Lithobates (Rana) clamitans melanota</i>
Pickerel Frog	<i>Lithobates (Rana) palustris</i>
Southern Leopard Frog	<i>Lithobates (Rana) sphenoccephalus</i>

This species list was compiled by LEAPS, Learning through Environmental Awareness Program. Pit traps such as these were set throughout the Warner Parks to collect, identify, and then release both reptiles and amphibians.



Order Caudata: Salamanders

- Skin smooth and moist
 - Most have gilled, aquatic young
 - Adults breathe through their skin (cutaneously)
 - Inhabit rich forests and creek beds
 - Tennessee Cave Salamander is our state amphibian
- * Avoid handling salamanders with dry hands as this damages their protective, slimy skin layer

Salamanders

Tiger Salamander	<i>Ambystoma tigrinum</i>
Spotted Dusky Salamander	<i>Desmognathus conanti</i>
Southern Two-lined Salamander	<i>Eurycea cirrigera</i>
Long-tailed Salamander	<i>Eurycea longicauda</i>
Cave Salamander	<i>Eurycea lucifuga</i>
Eastern Newt	<i>Notophthalmus viridescens</i>
Northern Zigzag Salamander	<i>Plethodon dorsalis</i>
Northern Slimy Salamander	<i>Plethodon glutinosus</i>

Amphibian Research in Warner Parks

Frog and toad populations are monitored through a state-wide program called TAMP—Tennessee Amphibian Monitoring Program. TAMP volunteers visit designated aquatic areas around the Parks recording sounds and observations of frogs and toads during mating season. Data is forwarded to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. Amphibians are important environmental indicators—their presence or absence conveys useful information about the health of a particular habitat.

Class Reptilia: Reptiles

- Cold-blooded, carnivorous vertebrates
- Skin covered with dry scales
- Turtles, lizards, skinks and some snakes lay eggs
- Live birth occurs in our venomous snakes and some of our non-venomous snakes

Order Testudines: Turtles

- May be aquatic or terrestrial vertebrates
- Easy to recognize by their typically domed upper shell (carapace), and flat lower shell (plastron)
- Shell serves as their backbone, they cannot live outside their shell
- Omnivorous, eat both plants and meat
- Eastern Box Turtle is our state reptile

Turtles

Spiny Softshell	<i>Apalone spinifera</i>
Eastern Snapping Turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>
Painted Turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>
Eastern Box Turtle	<i>Terrapene carolina carolina</i>
Red-eared Slider	<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>



The **Northern Slimy Salamander** gets its name from the secretions it emits from its skin glands when it is handled roughly or feels threatened. After hatching from eggs, Slimy Salamanders emerge as small salamanders. This makes them different from other amphibians because they skip the larval stage.



The **Rough Greensnake** is a beautiful, slender, arboreal (lives in trees) snake. It eats grasshoppers, caterpillars, and many other insects.

The **Spiny Softshell** has a leathery shell and lives in water where it will settle into the substrate and become completely camouflaged. It may quickly extend its long neck to capture prey.



Order Caudata: Salamanders

- Skin smooth and moist
 - Most have gilled, aquatic young
 - Adults breathe through their skin (cutaneously)
 - Inhabit rich forests and creek beds
 - Tennessee Cave Salamander is our state amphibian
- * Avoid handling salamanders with dry hands as this damages their protective, slimy skin layer

Salamanders

Tiger Salamander	<i>Ambystoma tigrinum</i>
Spotted Dusky Salamander	<i>Desmognathus conanti</i>
Southern Two-lined Salamander	<i>Eurycea cirrigera</i>
Long-tailed Salamander	<i>Eurycea longicauda</i>
Cave Salamander	<i>Eurycea lucifuga</i>
Eastern Newt	<i>Notophthalmus viridescens</i>
Northern Zigzag Salamander	<i>Plethodon dorsalis</i>
Northern Slimy Salamander	<i>Plethodon glutinosus</i>

Amphibian Research in Warner Parks

Frog and toad populations are monitored through a state-wide program called TAMP—Tennessee Amphibian Monitoring Program. TAMP volunteers visit designated aquatic areas around the Parks recording sounds and observations of frogs and toads during mating season. Data is forwarded to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. Amphibians are important environmental indicators—their presence or absence conveys useful information about the health of a particular habitat.

Class Reptilia: Reptiles

- Cold-blooded, carnivorous vertebrates
- Skin covered with dry scales
- Turtles, lizards, skinks and some snakes lay eggs
- Live birth occurs in our venomous snakes and some of our non-venomous snakes

Order Testudines: Turtles

- May be aquatic or terrestrial vertebrates
- Easy to recognize by their typically domed upper shell (carapace), and flat lower shell (plastron)
- Shell serves as their backbone, they cannot live outside their shell
- Omnivorous, eat both plants and meat
- Eastern Box Turtle is our state reptile

Turtles

Spiny Softshell	<i>Apalone spinifera</i>
Eastern Snapping Turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>
Painted Turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>
Eastern Box Turtle	<i>Terrapene carolina carolina</i>
Red-eared Slider	<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>



The **Northern Slimy Salamander** gets its name from the secretions it emits from its skin glands when it is handled roughly or feels threatened. After hatching from eggs, Slimy Salamanders emerge as small salamanders. This makes them different from other amphibians because they skip the larval stage.



The **Rough Greensnake** is a beautiful, slender, arboreal (lives in trees) snake. It eats grasshoppers, caterpillars, and many other insects.

The **Spiny Softshell** has a leathery shell and lives in water where it will settle into the substrate and become completely camouflaged. It may quickly extend its long neck to capture prey.



Order Squamata– Skinks, Lizards, and Snakes

- All in the Warner Parks are carnivorous
- Skinks have smooth, shiny scales, most juveniles have blue tails
- Skink tails break off easily
- Lizards have spiny scales and claws
- Lizards, skinks and many snakes enjoy basking on rocks
- Lizards and skinks shed their skin in patches
- Snakes shed their entire skin at one time
- Snakes have no legs or eyelids



Eastern Black Racers like dry open areas and will eat a variety of prey including insects, lizards, skinks, other snakes, birds, moles, shrews and mice. They do not readily chase people.

Skinks, Lizards & Snakes

Southeastern Five-lined Skink	<i>Plestiodon inexpectatus</i>
Broad-headed Skink	<i>Plestiodon laticeps</i>
Eastern Fence Lizard	<i>Sceloporus undulates</i>
Little Brown (Ground) Skink	<i>Scincella lateralis</i>
Eastern Wormsnake	<i>Carphophis amoenus</i>
Eastern Black Racer	<i>Coluber constrictor</i>
Ring-necked Snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus</i>
Gray Rat Snake	<i>Pantherophis spiloides</i>
Eastern Hog-nosed Snake	<i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>
Common Black Kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis getula</i>
Eastern Milksnake	<i>Lampropeltis triangulum</i>
Northern Watersnake	<i>Nerodia sipedon</i>
Rough Greensnake	<i>Opheodrys aestivus</i>
Queen Snake	<i>Regina septemvittata</i>
DeKay’s Brown Snake	<i>Storeria dekayi</i>
Common Gartersnake	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>
Smooth Earthsnake	<i>Virginia valeriae</i>
Copperhead*	<i>Agkistrodon contortrix</i>
Timber Rattlesnake*	<i>Croatlus horridus</i>

***Poisonous Snakes**

- * Only 2 poisonous snakes documented in the Parks
- * Pit vipers: heat sensitive pits between eyes and nostrils
- * Vertical pupils, fangs
- * Stout bodies with broad heads
- * Single row of scales on the underside of tail
- * Encounters are rare
- * Report sightings to the Nature Center staff



Venomous
Rattlesnake with broad head and slender neck



Non-venomous
Gartersnake with slender head and neck



Venomous
Copperhead with vertical pupil



Non-venomous
Greensnake with round pupil

Order Squamata– Skinks, Lizards, and Snakes

- All in the Warner Parks are carnivorous
- Skinks have smooth, shiny scales, most juveniles have blue tails
- Skink tails break off easily
- Lizards have spiny scales and claws
- Lizards, skinks and many snakes enjoy basking on rocks
- Lizards and skinks shed their skin in patches
- Snakes shed their entire skin at one time
- Snakes have no legs or eyelids



Eastern Black Racers like dry open areas and will eat a variety of prey including insects, lizards, skinks, other snakes, birds, moles, shrews and mice. They do not readily chase people.

Skinks, Lizards & Snakes

Southeastern Five-lined Skink	<i>Plestiodon inexpectatus</i>
Broad-headed Skink	<i>Plestiodon laticeps</i>
Eastern Fence Lizard	<i>Sceloporus undulates</i>
Little Brown (Ground) Skink	<i>Scincella lateralis</i>
Eastern Wormsnake	<i>Carphophis amoenus</i>
Eastern Black Racer	<i>Coluber constrictor</i>
Ring-necked Snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus</i>
Gray Rat Snake	<i>Pantherophis spiloides</i>
Eastern Hog-nosed Snake	<i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>
Common Black Kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis getula</i>
Eastern Milksnake	<i>Lampropeltis triangulum</i>
Northern Watersnake	<i>Nerodia sipedon</i>
Rough Greensnake	<i>Opheodrys aestivus</i>
Queen Snake	<i>Regina septemvittata</i>
DeKay’s Brown Snake	<i>Storeria dekayi</i>
Common Gartersnake	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>
Smooth Earthsnake	<i>Virginia valeriae</i>
Copperhead*	<i>Agkistrodon contortrix</i>
Timber Rattlesnake*	<i>Croatlus horridus</i>

***Poisonous Snakes**

- * Only 2 poisonous snakes documented in the Parks
- * Pit vipers: heat sensitive pits between eyes and nostrils
- * Vertical pupils, fangs
- * Stout bodies with broad heads
- * Single row of scales on the underside of tail
- * Encounters are rare
- * Report sightings to the Nature Center staff



Venomous
Rattlesnake with broad head and slender neck



Non-venomous
Gartersnake with slender head and neck



Venomous
Copperhead with vertical pupil



Non-venomous
Greensnake with round pupil



**WARNER PARK
NATURE CENTER**



**FRIENDS
OF WARNER PARKS**

7311 Highway 100
Nashville, Tennessee 37221
615-862-8555
Website: wpnc.nashville.gov
Email: wpnc@nashville.gov



**WARNER PARK
NATURE CENTER**



**FRIENDS
OF WARNER PARKS**

7311 Highway 100
Nashville, Tennessee 37221
615-862-8555
Website: wpnc.nashville.gov
Email: wpnc@nashville.gov